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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY China/USSR

DATE DISTR. 4 Jan. 1950

SUBJECT 1. Communist Military and Economic Information
2. Soviet Activities, Manchuria

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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referenced reports

1. Communist government officials in Peiping told informant that the Communist Army will be increased in size for use as a state labor force in public works and agriculture. The army will increase farm output only slightly but will support itself, by sharing crops, with less "pain" to farmers than if it were tax-supported.
2. The North China conscription quota, the size of which is not known to informant, is arousing much opposition and men are fleeing the cities to evade the draft. The quota in Manchuria is 200,000.
3. There were critical food shortages in most of the areas visited by source. The food crisis has been increased by the failure of Manchuria to meet quotas of the Soviet barter arrangement, with the result that Tientsin flour mills are grinding 2,000,000 sacks of flour from local wheat to meet the deficit. This is depleting local reserves and arousing the resentment of the population who are aware of the situation.
4. The Soviets are attempting to build good will in Manchuria by limiting advisers to the same living standards as their Chinese colleagues. Soviet troops in Dairen are "sharing rations" with the populace.

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NO CHANGE in Class.

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the States.

Next Review Date: 2008